



PARTNERSHIP FOR
21ST CENTURY SKILLS

Preparing Every Child for the 21st Century

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

National School Board Association

Orlando, FL

March 29, 2008

Overview

- Who is the Partnership and what is the Framework for 21st Century Skills?
- The state perspective.
- The school board perspective.
- What should school boards do?

P21 Members



sesameworkshop.
The nonprofit educational organization
behind Sesame Street and so much more





Who is the Partnership?

A unique partnership between
business, education and
policymakers

With support from the U.S. Department
of Education

Who is the Partnership?

The Partnership is a catalyst to define and promote a powerful vision for:

- 21st Century Citizens
- 21st Century Workers
- 21st Century Education

P21 Partner States

Current State Partners

- Maine
- Massachusetts
- North Carolina
- South Dakota
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

TBA: Iowa, Kansas, New Jersey

Why are 21st century skills so important?

There are new
21st Century
Contexts

Global Competition

Global Cooperation

Information Growth

More Jobs & Careers

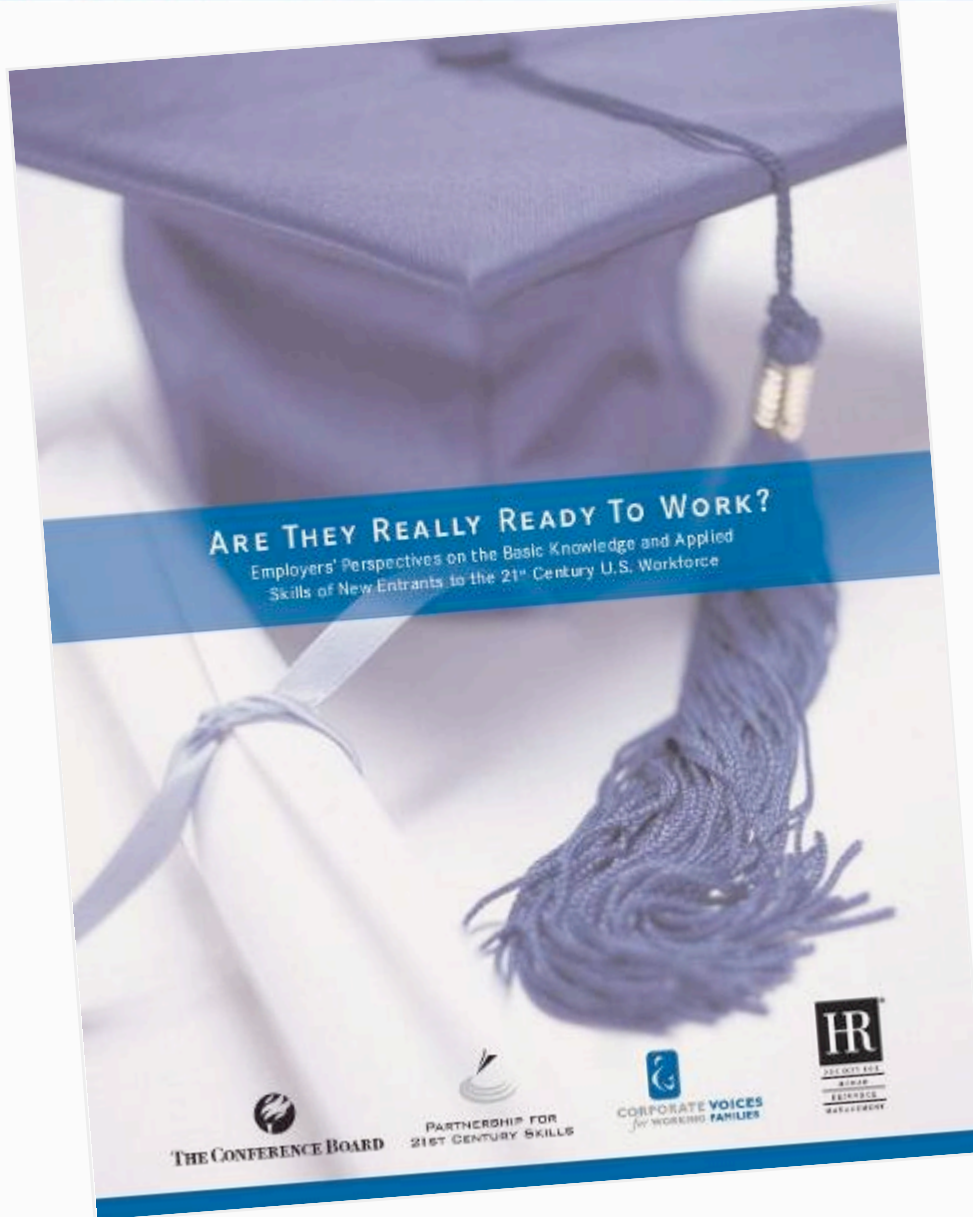
Service Economy

New Context

Skills Required

Global Competition:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Global Awareness•Self-Direction
Global Cooperation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Global Awareness•Collaboration•Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy
Information Growth:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Information Literacy•Critical Thinking•Problem Solving
More Jobs & Careers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Critical Thinking & Problem Solving•Innovation & Improvement•Flexibility & Adaptability
Growing Service Economy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Communication Skills•Life and Career Awareness Skills

Why are 21st century skills so important?



The requirements
of the workforce
are changing

Why are 21st century skills so important?

- What skills are most important for job success when hiring a high school graduate?

Work Ethic	80%
Collaboration	75%
Good Communication	70%
Social Responsibility	63%
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving	58%

Why are 21st century skills so important?

- Of the high school students that you recently hired, what were their deficiencies?

Written Communication	81%
Leadership	73%
Work Ethic	70%
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving	70%
Self-Direction	58%

Why are 21st century skills so important?

- What skills and content areas will be growing in importance in the next five years?

Critical Thinking	78%
I.T.	77%
Health & Wellness	76%
Collaboration	74%
Innovation	74%
Personal Financial Responsibility	72%

Why are 21st century skills so important?




PUBLIC OPINION


STRATEGIES

Peter D.
HART

RESEARCH
ASSOCIATES

Beyond the Three Rs Voter Attitudes toward 21st Century Skills



**PARTNERSHIP FOR
21ST CENTURY SKILLS**


Beyond the Three Rs Voter Attitudes toward 21st Century Skills

A new, nationwide poll of registered voters reveals that Americans are deeply concerned that the United States is not preparing young people with the skills they need to compete in the global economy.

A virtually unanimous **99 percent** of voters say that teaching students a wide range of 21st century skills—including critical thinking and problem-solving skills, computer and technology skills, and communication and self-direction skills—is important to our country's future economic success.

This strong and highly unusual consensus, which cuts across all socioeconomic classes, age groups and political affiliations, indicates that there is nearly universal agreement among Americans about the connection between 21st century skills and economic—and individual—competitiveness.

How important to our country's future economic success is teaching and learning 21st century skills?




Response	Percentage
Very or somewhat important	99%
Not very or not at all important	1%

An overwhelming **80 percent** of voters say that the kind of skills students need to learn to be prepared for the jobs of the 21st century is different from what they needed 20 years ago.

The findings indicate that Americans understand that the economy has changed and that, without skills that reflect today's workforce demands, young people may face tougher challenges earning a living wage and maintaining U.S. competitiveness than previous generations did. And, while Americans believe schools have not kept pace with changing times, a resounding majority (88 percent) believes schools can and should incorporate 21st century skills into their curriculum.

To be prepared for the jobs of the 21st century, do you think the kind of things a student needs to learn in school are very similar, somewhat similar, somewhat different or very different from what a student needed to learn 20 years ago?



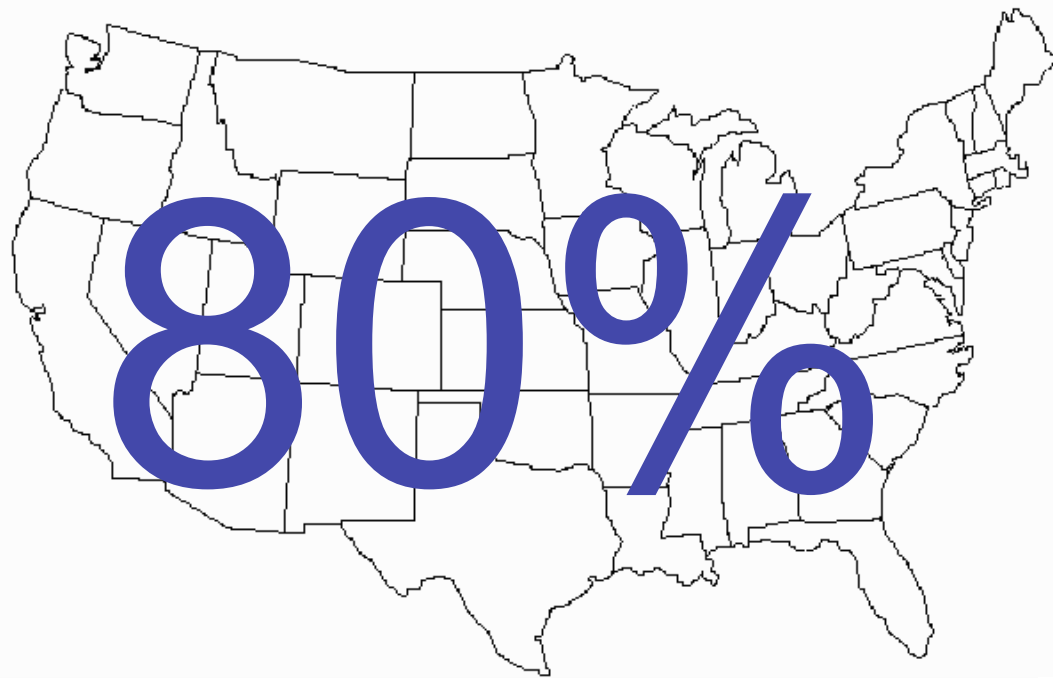
Response	Percentage
Somewhat different or very different	80%
Similar or somewhat similar	19%
Don't know	1%

This report presents the key findings of the outcomes of voter attitudes on public education.

Source: P.E.C. 2009 Survey of Registered Voters, Page 12 (http://www.21stcenturyskills.org)

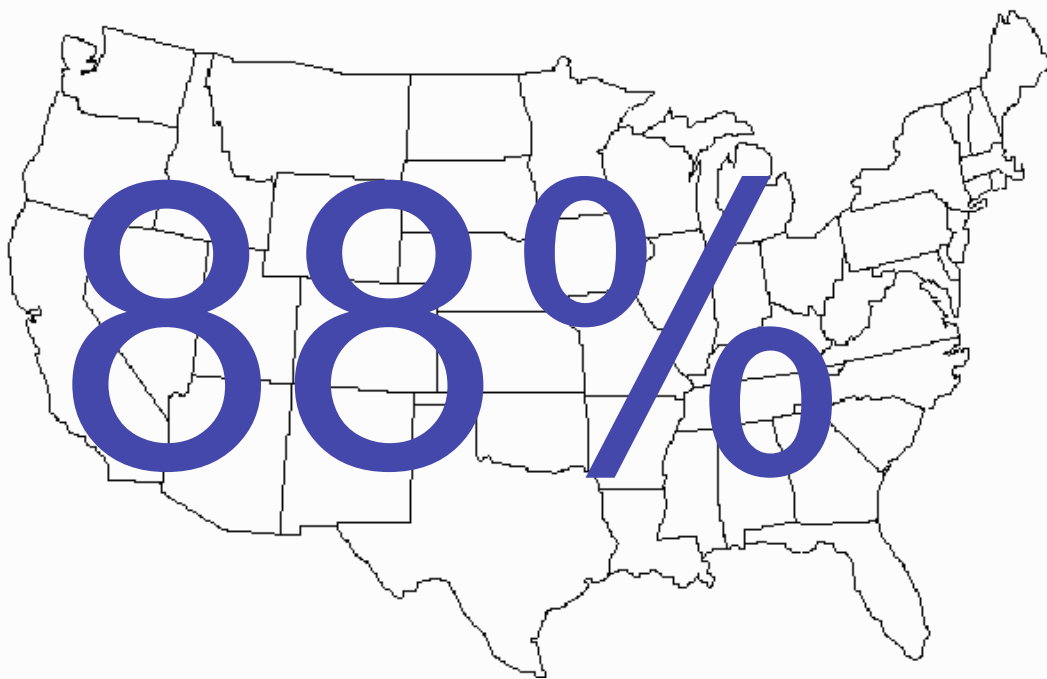
WWW.21STCENTURYSKILLS.ORG

Voter Attitudes toward 21st Century Skills



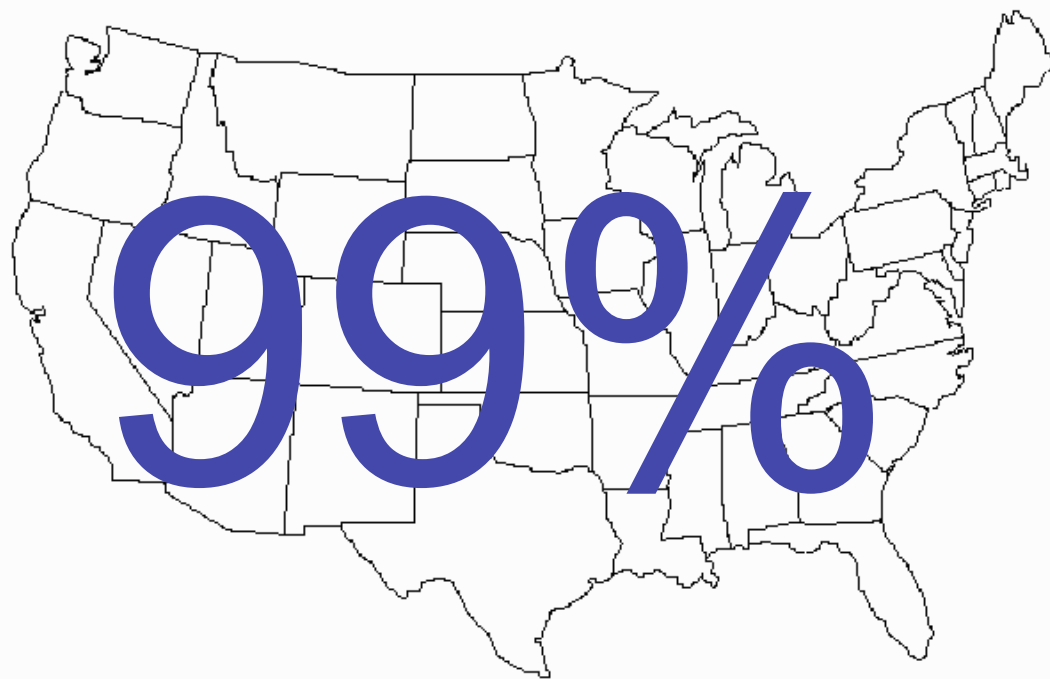
The things students need to learn in school today are different than what they were 20 years ago.

Voter Attitudes toward 21st Century Skills



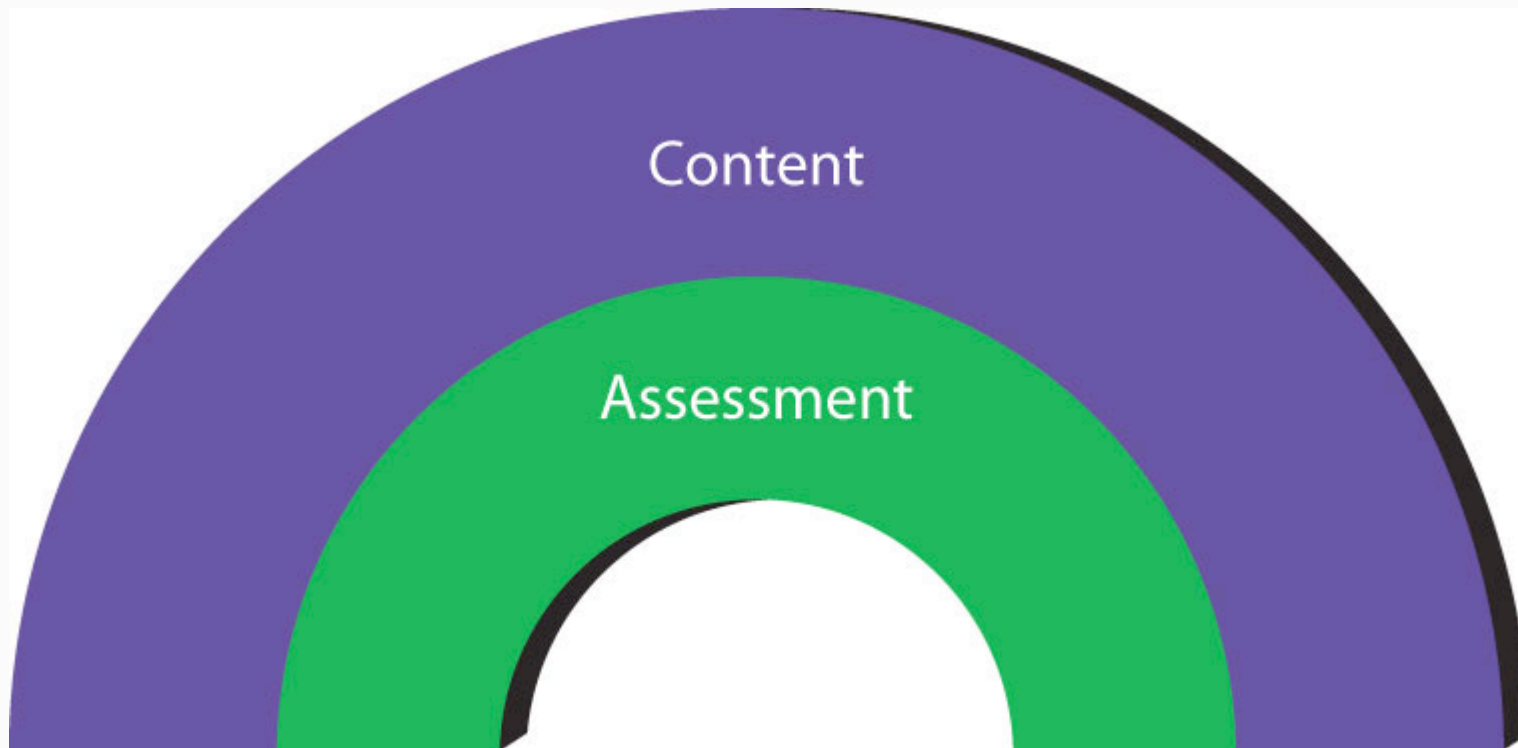
**21st century
skills are
important for
schools to
teach.**

Voter Attitudes toward 21st Century Skills

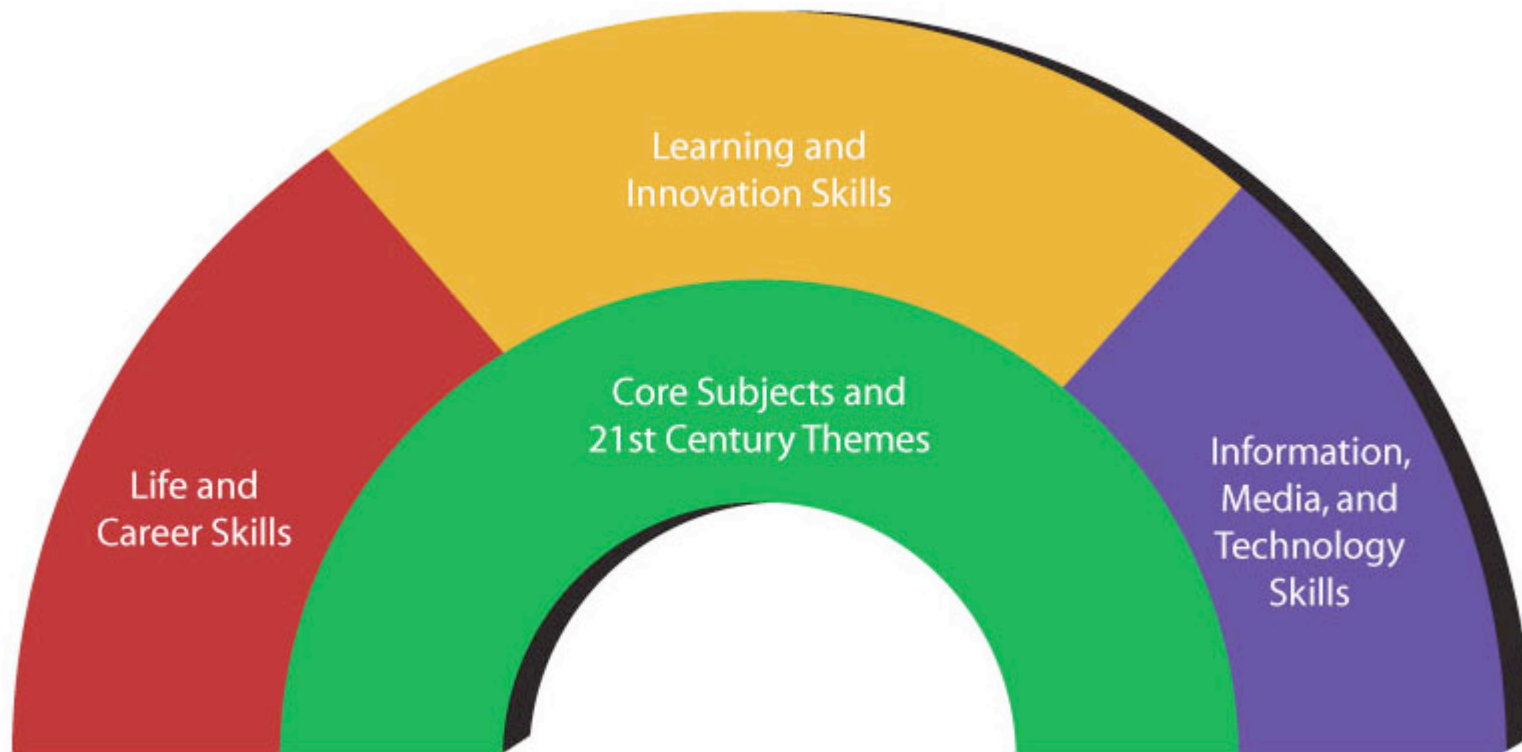


Teaching and learning 21st century skills are very important to our country's future economy.

20th Century Education Model



21st Century Skills Framework



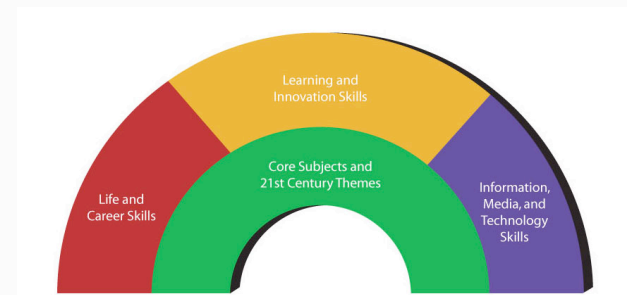
21st Century Skills Framework

Core Subjects

- Economics
- English
- Government
- Arts
- History
- Geography
- Reading or Language
- Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- World Languages
- Civics

21st Century Themes

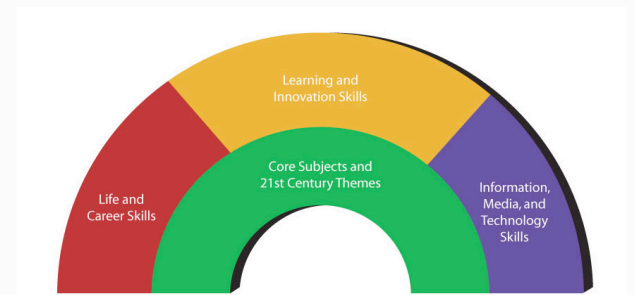
- Global Awareness
- Financial, Economic, Business & Entrepreneurship Literacy
- Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy



21st Century Skills Framework

Learning & Innovation Skills

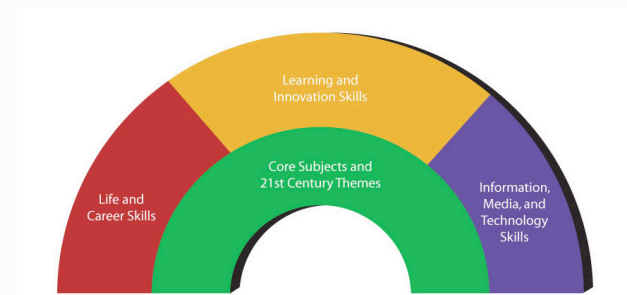
- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Creativity & Innovation
- Communication & Collaboration



21st Century Skills Framework

Information, Media & Technology Skills

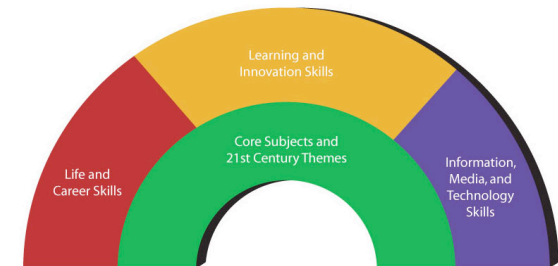
- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- ICT (Information, Communications & Technology) Literacy



21st Century Skills Framework

Life & Career Skills

- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Initiative & Self-Direction
- Social & Cross-Cultural Skills
- Productivity & Accountability
- Leadership & Responsibility



Route 21

The screenshot shows the Route 21 website. At the top is a green navigation bar with links for 'Login', 'My Profile', 'About Us', 'Help', 'Search Materials', and 'GO Advanced Search'. Below this is a blue header featuring a large orange shield with 'ROUTE 21' and four buttons: '21st Century Skills', '21st Century Support Systems', 'Resources for 21st Century Skills', and '21st Century States'. The main content area has a 'Welcome to Route 21' heading and a paragraph about the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. To the left is a sidebar with a map, a 'what's new' section with statistics, a 'TAKE A TOUR' button, and a 'login' form. At the bottom center is a large rainbow diagram with segments for 'Learning and Innovation Skills', 'Life and Career Skills', 'Information, Media and Technology Skills', and 'Core Subjects and 21st Century Themes'. Below the rainbow are concentric circles representing 'Standards and Assessments', 'Curriculum and Instruction', 'Professional Development', and 'Learning Environments'.

ROUTE 21

Login | My Profile | About Us | Help | Search Materials: GO Advanced Search

21st Century Skills | 21st Century Support Systems | Resources for 21st Century Skills | 21st Century States

Welcome to Route 21

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills is pleased to offer Route 21, a one-stop-shop for 21st century skills-related information, resources and community tools. To get started, [take a tour](#) or [explore the P21 framework](#).

what's new
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
81 materials
81 recently added
15 members
3 recently joined
[show more](#)

TAKE A TOUR

login
Username:
Password:

65

Learning and Innovation Skills

Life and Career Skills

Information, Media and Technology Skills

Core Subjects and 21st Century Themes

Standards and Assessments

Curriculum and Instruction

Professional Development

Learning Environments

Done

How do I learn more about 21st century skills?

Overview

- Who is the Partnership and what is the Framework for 21st Century Skills?
- The state perspective.
- The school board perspective.
- What should school boards do?

The State Perspective

The State Board of Education's *new mission:*

FUTURE-READY STUDENTS for the 21st Century



The State Perspective

FUTURE-READY STUDENTS **for the 21st Century**

The guiding mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education is that every public school student will graduate from high school, globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and prepared for life in the 21st century.



The State Perspective

New Standards for a New Mission

- **Principal Standards**
- **Teacher Standards**



The State Perspective

Graduation Project

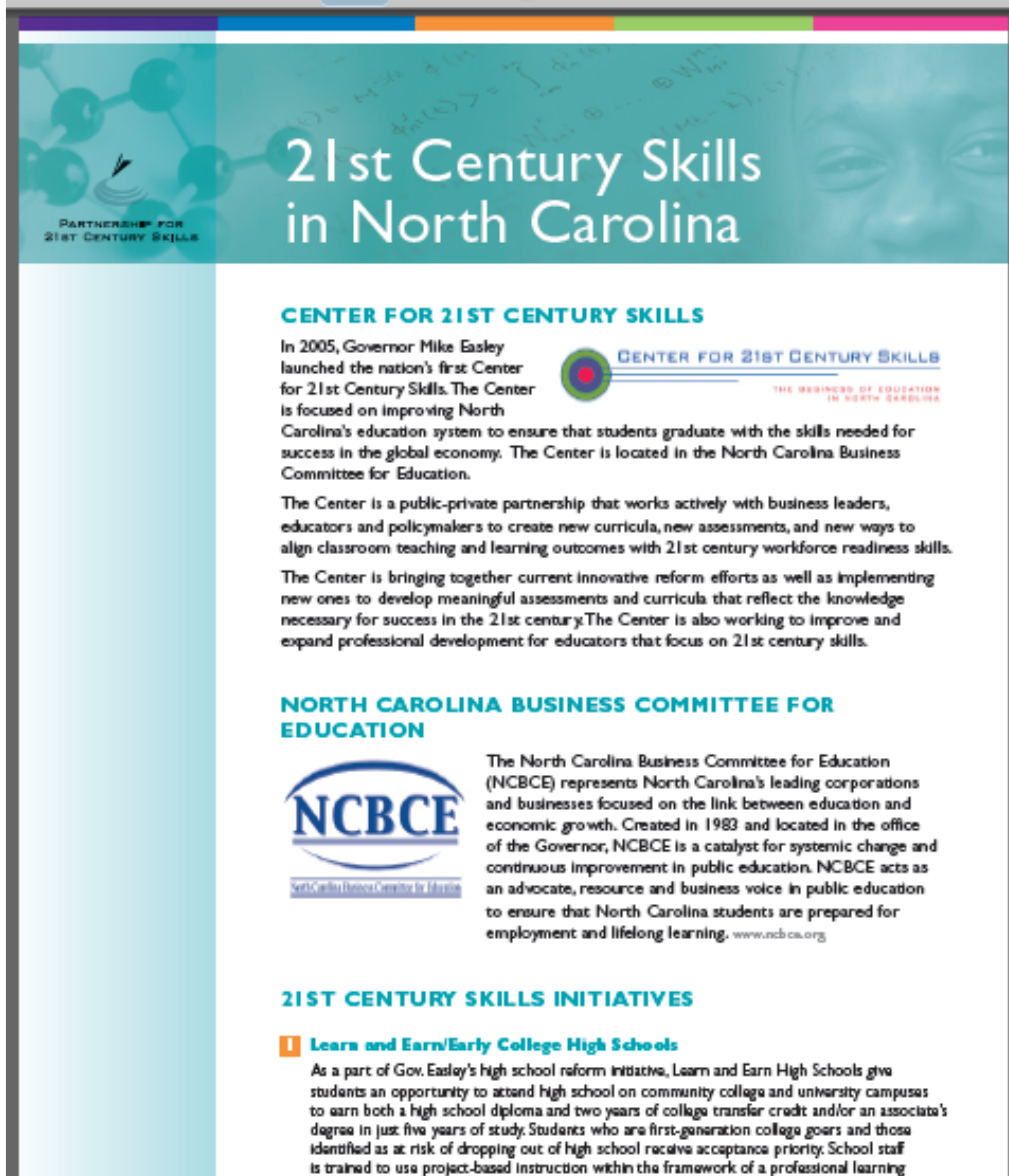
- Paper
- Portfolio
- Product
- Presentation



www.ncpublicschools.org/graduationproject

The State Perspective

21st Century Skills in North Carolina



**21st Century Skills
in North Carolina**


CENTER FOR 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

In 2005, Governor Mike Easley launched the nation's first Center for 21st Century Skills. The Center is focused on improving North Carolina's education system to ensure that students graduate with the skills needed for success in the global economy. The Center is located in the North Carolina Business Committee for Education.

The Center is a public-private partnership that works actively with business leaders, educators and policymakers to create new curricula, new assessments, and new ways to align classroom teaching and learning outcomes with 21st century workforce readiness skills.

The Center is bringing together current innovative reform efforts as well as implementing new ones to develop meaningful assessments and curricula that reflect the knowledge necessary for success in the 21st century. The Center is also working to improve and expand professional development for educators that focus on 21st century skills.

NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

The North Carolina Business Committee for Education (NCBCE) represents North Carolina's leading corporations and businesses focused on the link between education and economic growth. Created in 1983 and located in the office of the Governor, NCBCE is a catalyst for systemic change and continuous improvement in public education. NCBCE acts as an advocate, resource and business voice in public education to ensure that North Carolina students are prepared for employment and lifelong learning. www.ncbce.org

21ST CENTURY SKILLS INITIATIVES

1 Learn and Earn/Early College High Schools

As a part of Gov. Easley's high school reform initiative, Learn and Earn High Schools give students an opportunity to attend high school on community college and university campuses to earn both a high school diploma and two years of college transfer credit and/or an associate's degree in just five years of study. Students who are first-generation college goers and those identified as at risk of dropping out of high school receive acceptance priority. School staff is trained to use project-based instruction within the framework of a professional learning

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The School Board Perspective

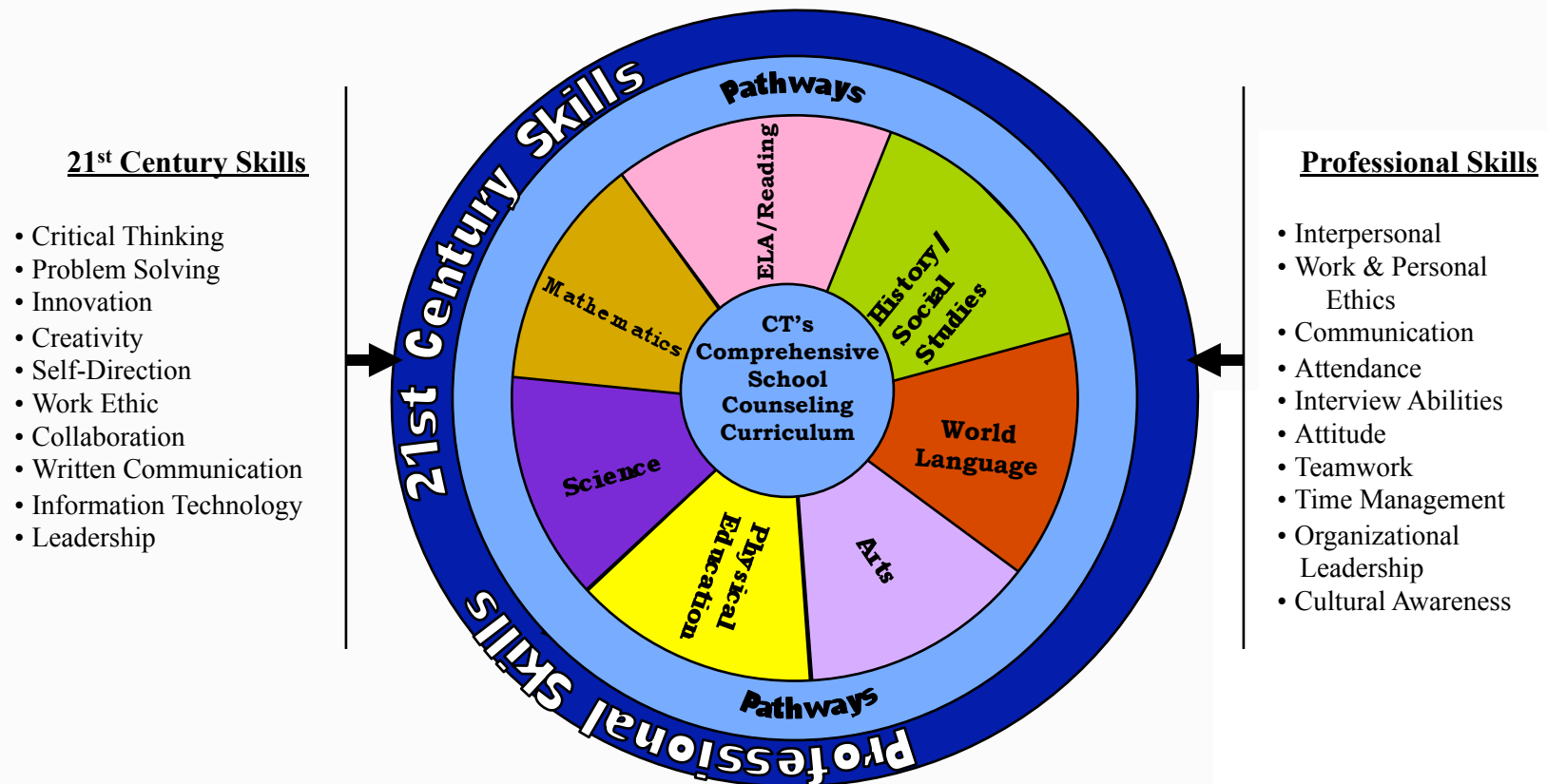
- 24 Credits
- A Core Curriculum of Required Courses
- 21st Century Learning Skills Embedded in State-developed Model Curricula
- End-of-Course Assessment Examinations
- End-of-Course Performance Tasks
- Student Success Plans with Career Path Options
- A Senior Demonstration Project

A Matrix of Requirements and Choices

<i>Draft 12/5/07</i>	<i>Required Credits Distribution</i>	<i>State Model Curricula</i>	<i>Embedded 21st Century Skills</i>	<i>State EOC Examination</i>	<i>State EOC Performance Task</i>	<i>Local EOC Performance Task</i>	<i>Locally Scored</i>
Core Curriculum							
Mathematics	3						
Algebra I	1	x	x	x			
Geometry	1	x	x				
Algebra II	1	x	x	x			
Science	3						
Biology	1	x	x	x			
Chemistry or Other Full-year Physical Science Course (See N	1	x	x		x (Chemistry)	x (Other)	x
Full-year Lab Course in Physical or Life Science	1					x	x
English, LA & Reading	4						
English I	1	x	x				
English II	1	x	x	x			
Literature & Composition I	1						
Literature & Composition II or Full-year Elective	1						
History/Social Science	3						
International Studies	1					x	x
US History	1	x	x	x			
Civics	0.5	x	x				
Half-year Elective	0.5						
World Language	2						
Career & Technical Education and The Arts	2						
<i>Combination of Full or Half-Year Elective Courses</i>							
Careers and Technical Education	.5 or 1 or 2						
The Arts	.5 or 1 or 2						
Health and Wellness	2						
Health, Nutrition & Wellness	0.5	x	x				
Physical Education	1.5	x	x				
Electives: Full and Half-Year Courses	4						
Senior Demonstration	1					x	x
Total	24	11	11	5	1	4	4

Note 1: Model Curriculum for Chemistry Only

Components of Student Success Plan



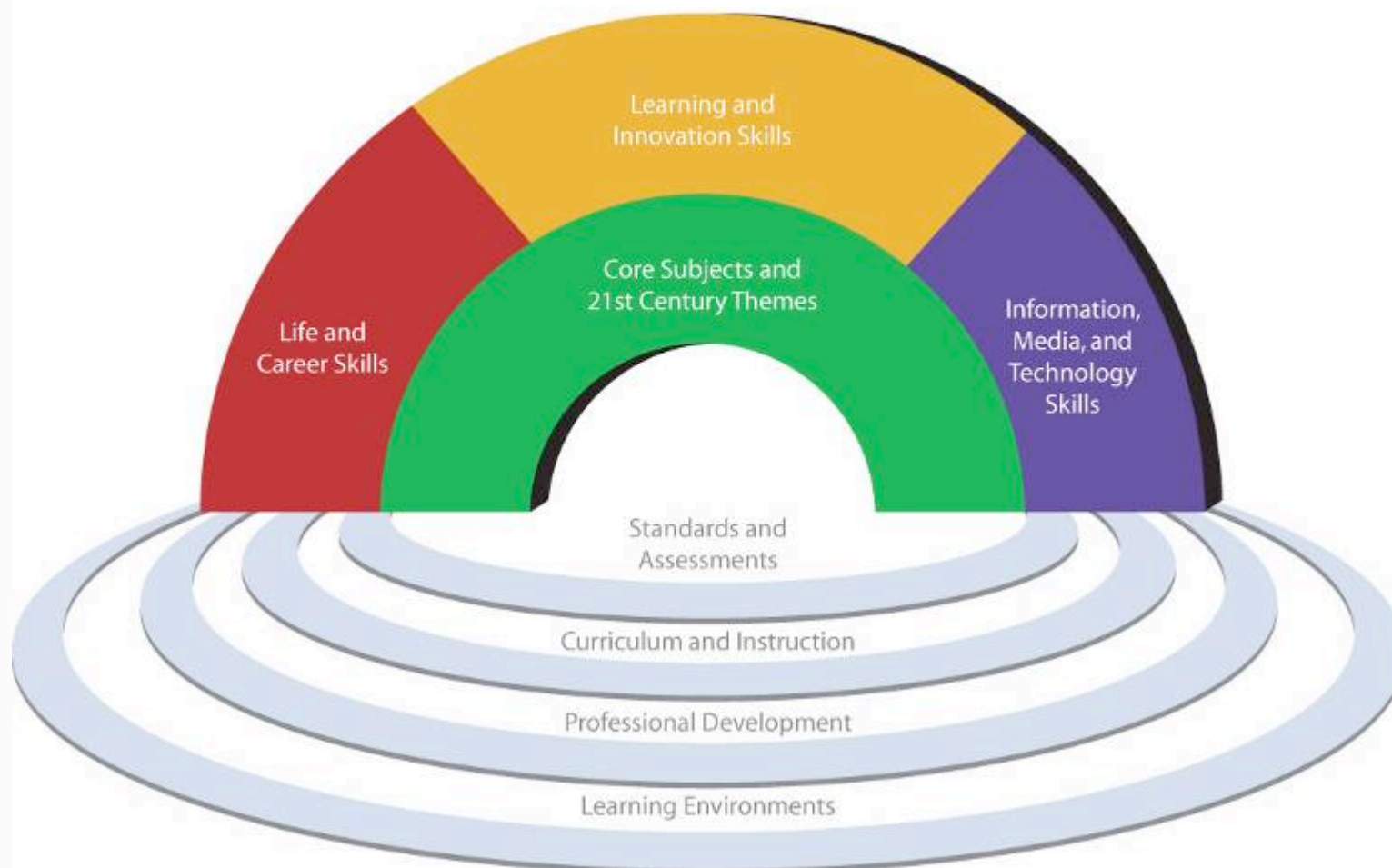
Foundation: Rigorous academic courses and a related sequence of elective courses aligned to a specific career pathway in providing:

- Experiential Learning: Job Shadows, Internships, Community Service
- Dual/Concurrent Credit
- Senior Project Design
- 21st Century and Professional Skills across-the-curriculum
- Evolving post-secondary plan

Overview

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21st Century Student Outcomes and Support Systems



What should school boards do?

1. Develop a “Partnership” Focused on 21st Century Outcomes

Develop a consensus among the key stakeholders on the 21st century skills needed by your students. Be sure the business community is included.



What should school boards do?

2. Embed 21st century skills into professional development and teacher preparation for P-16 education.



(e.g. West Virginia, Lawrence Township/Indianapolis, North Carolina)

<http://wvde.state.wv.us/teach21/>

What should school boards do?

3. Embed 21st century skills into the assessments used in P-16 education.



(e.g. North Carolina Science Assessment, new Tech High, CWRA, PISA.)

Conclusion



Are our students ready for the
new global economy?

Conclusion

Are our students critical thinkers and problem solvers?



Are our students globally aware?

Are our students self-directed?

Are our students good collaborators?



Conclusion

Are our students information and technology literate?



Are our students flexible and adaptable?

Are our students innovative?



Are our students effective communicators?

Conclusion

These skills should become the “design specs” for 21st century education in every district.

Contact Us

177 North Church Ave.
Suite 305
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 623-2466



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Partnership for 21st Century Skills website. At the top is a navigation bar with the organization's logo and menu items: STATE INITIATIVES, FRAMEWORK, EVENTS & NEWS, ABOUT US, and RESOURCES. Below the navigation bar are two large images: a young man using a laptop and a young girl reading a book. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a description of the organization, a subscribe form, and a 'Contact Us' link. The middle column features a 'HIGHLIGHTS' section with a headline about a new online resource and a paragraph about 'Route 21'. The right column has an 'IN THE NEWS' section with two news items, one about a national poll and another dated October 10, 2007, about a nationwide poll of registered voters.

PARTNERSHIP FOR 21ST CENTURY SKILLS ▲ STATE INITIATIVES ▲ FRAMEWORK ▲ EVENTS & NEWS ▲ ABOUT US ▲ RESOURCES

The leading advocacy organization infusing 21st century skills into education.

SUBSCRIBE
Subscribe to receive email updates

[Contact Us](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

First Online Resource Dedicated to 21st Century Skills Teaching and Learning is Launched

Route 21 Provides Extensive Database on 21st Century Skills-Related Standards, Assessments, Curriculum, Professional Development and Learning Environments

Washington, DC – Nov. 7, 2007 – Americans increasingly recognize that the U.S. education system can and should do more to prepare our young people to succeed in the rapidly evolving 21st century. Skills such as global literacy, problem solving, innovation and creativity have become critical in today's increasingly interconnected workforce and society. To help education leaders and policymakers implement 21st century teaching and learning, the Partnership for 21st Century Skills launched Route 21, an online, one-stop shop for 21st century skills-related information, resources and tools.

IN THE NEWS

U.S. Students Need 21st Century Skills to Compete in a Global Economy

Americans Express Strong Support in National Poll for Teaching More Than Basic Skills

WASHINGTON, DC - Oct. 10, 2007 - A new, nationwide poll of registered voters reveals that Americans are deeply concerned that the United States is not preparing young people with the skills they need to compete in the global economy.

www.21stcenturyskills.org